

The Federal Communications Commission

Dear The Federal Communications Commission,

My husband and I are 60 years old. He has lost his job and we are trying to live on disability. He is ill and we have no insurance. We don't qualify for state or federal help unless we cash in the life insurance policies that we have worked all of our lives to have paid up by retirement age. We need our phone because we are on the road running to doctor appointments and such. We don't use it unless there is an emergency. We can't afford to pay any more for this service than we are now. Please don't raise our cost any higher.

I do not want to pay more for my telephone service! I urge you to reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund. I am concerned that this proposal could make my current service unaffordable.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. In other words, low-volume and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as a high-volume residential or business customers. This is unfair!

I use my wireless phone for safety, security and convenience. I don't want to lose these benefits so that big businesses can pay less than their fair share. I urge you to reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee.

Keep the USF Fair!

Sincerely,

Dixie Beenken  
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Clarion, Iowa 50525-1950